Grade Threes and Fours
Construction unit.

Designing and building gathering spaces and thinking about points of view.

The Brief: Design and build a fun gathering space, for a “Transformed Toy.” These were made by altering old toys into a new character.

*Focus on construction skills,* how to make things fit together learn how to choose the best joining method and the most appropriate materials to solve a particular problem.

*Learn about different tools and attachment techniques* for each of the different construction materials including paper card and plastic and wood. We will look at art works and images and think about spaces from different points of view.

Skills to learn in construction.

- Make paper and card stand off the page, spring, curl, fringe, splay, pleat, score, fold, interlocking slots and tabs.
• Balancing a 3d form. Discover natural balance as a joining method, stack, lean, mobile hanging parts.
• Manipulating and transforming boxes pull apart and reassemble, nets,
• Strength and support skills, manipulate paper and card to create a 3D form, use a range of cardboard weights including corrugated card.
• Attachment application and safety techniques masking tape, different glues for different materials PVA, super tack and hot glue gun, pins into soft wood, hammering a nails for harder wood, for moving parts split pins and hole punch for joints ,use of wire/ pipe cleaners for hinges.

What do you think about the way this construction unit of work was taught to you? Feedback from the students to their teacher.

It was a helpful way of learning because you can make wonderful things that you never thought you could. You taught me different tricks to improve my work I felt happy that I was learning more skills.

I liked how we had lots of time to learn things and to build our world. I did not feel rushed.

Some of the joining skills I already knew but you taught me how to do them better. I liked how we learned little things that helped us towards the big thing. You gave us helpful tips.

I like how you let us learn the new skills when we needed them. We could learn it from a friend.
I enjoyed having lots of options and the doing small things along the way.

I thought art was about painting, I didn’t realise it was also about building.

I liked the idea of us having to watch the anchor chart and learn what we wanted to know in our own order. It taught us to do things on our own and doesn’t stop the whole class.

Maybe some people were not mature enough to manage to go into the store room to get fabric and other materials, so maybe we need to have a supervisor that can help people find things.

Some kids needed more help with the hot glue gun maybe we could pair more.

The toys were very exciting, people had lots of ideas and wanted to talk a lot about the possibilities this was fun but took up a lot of time, people were excited. Sometimes this was distracting.

I worked in a partnership because building takes a long time and two people can help each other.

I like how you let us do things on our own. I felt like “She trusts me.”

Trustful- we got to do things ourselves, at home I have to get older people to do it.

Idea- Can do art outside sometimes?

I like how you let us do what we wanted to do instead of everyone’s work looking the same we chose what we wanted to make.

You put up the chart of skills to learn (success criteria) then you let use choose which skills we learned by the end of the term, as long as we learned some of them, it was totally fine. We could decide what we would like to learn.

I liked the way you taught us. Sometime teachers teach you things but you are not ready to learn it yet, you are not up to that. But in this unit of work we got to learn things when we wanted to and were ready, so this meant we were not held up.

We could choose which skill we wanted to learn to build our world instead of learning everything at the same time as everyone else.

I needed to move on and because there was a chart telling us what was next to learn, I could move on myself and not wait for everyone and be bored.

I thought it was great because it was not overly demanding, not forcing and insisting on set skills in a set order, I felt like it was a proper way of learning but I don’t really know how to explain that.

It was good to have a chart to choose the skills from.

I was trying to make something big a castle but then I got sick, so I was behind and needed more time.

You showed us how to use slots and be safe with hammering.

It felt like we could make our sculpture however we wanted to. It was made by me, no one else.
I needed to be shown a few times how to use the tools.

Idea—Could there be a place in the art room where you can put your favourite art works until you have room to take it home?

I like how you let us be a bit free with art and our creature we got to choose.

I like the music and the quick draw at the start of the lesson, it really gets your brain ready for art.

I like how you taught us a few tricks on how to build things then let us use lots of materials.

I like how you showed us how to use the hot glue gun safely what you should and shouldn’t do

You trusted us to use the hammers.

I liked how you let us talk about the creature and its world on the ipad because it was good to explain it. This helped me think about my world, what I made and why I made it.

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